

The Insider



Summer fun from the Michigan Historical Museum System

June 17 through August 18

Fort Wilkins, 1870: A Living History Experience. Role-playing interpreters bring history to life at the 1844 fort. Fort Wilkins, Copper Harbor. 9:30 A.M. to 5 P.M., daily.

July 1

Past In Person. Journey into the past through the music, songs and tales of 19th-century lumberjacks. Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 7 P.M.

July 8

Vintage Baseball, Game 1. Take in a 19th-century baseball game. Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 1 P.M.

July 15 and 16

Wood Shaving Days. The entire family will enjoy woodwork crafts, sawmill demonstrations, 19th-century music and more. Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

July 29

Antique Automobile Show. Children's games, music and more! Mann House, Concord. 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

August 5 and 6

26th Annual Civil War Living History Encampment. The sights and sounds of the Civil War come to Michigan's Keweenaw Peninsula. Fort Wilkins, Copper Harbor. Events begin at 8 A.M. each day.

August 12

Forest Fest. Discover the ecology and the natural history of the forest. Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

August 12

Fayette Heritage Day. Come celebrate the fun side of 19th-century life. Fayette Historic Townsite, Garden. Noon to 5 P.M.

August 13

Vintage Baseball, Game 2. Take in a 19th-century baseball game. Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 1 P.M.

August 26 and 27

Black Iron Days. The largest gathering of blacksmiths in Michigan! Hartwick Pines Logging Museum, Grayling. 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

For more information, visit www.michiganhistory.org.

Coming soon! *Michigan's Family Album*

Opens August 5, 2006

The next special exhibit in the Michigan Historical Museum's first-floor gallery spotlights selections from one of the largest known private collections of Michigan photographs.

Together, the photographs resemble a family photo album of Michigan life from the 1860s to the 1920s. Like a family album, this collection includes a kaleidoscope of faces as well as the places where families lived, worked and played. And what would a family album be without the laughter, tears and milestones that carry us from one year to the next?

The Michigan Historical Museum—in partnership with Dave Tinder, the University of Michigan's Clements Library and David B. Walters—is pleased to present *Michigan's Family Album*, a diverse and breathtaking exhibit of more than 2,000 daguerreotypes, tintypes, stereo views, cabinet cards and large-format photos. There will also be a special display of postcards honoring every county in the state.

Michigan's Family Album is sponsored, in part, by the Friends of Michigan History.



The next exhibit at the Michigan Historical Museum spotlights hundreds of images that, together, create a veritable family album of Michigan life in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. This photo, circa 1905, shows a Leslie couple in their sitting room. *Michigan's Family Album* opens August 5, 2006.

Gadgets, Gizmos and Games

A sculpture of a turtle, a miniature flywheel and a bolt with a hidden compartment.

These creations are featured in the new exhibit, *From the Mind of the Machinist: Gadgets from the Portland Machinist Guild*.

From functioning steam or gas engines to puzzles and games crafted just for fun, Portland Machinist Guild members build and invent all kinds of machines. The above-mentioned items, crafted in response to a challenge to turn an ordinary item into something extraordinary, were featured in *Home Shop Machinist* magazine.

Guild member Ron Groce built a working model of a seven-cylinder radial aircraft engine from a set of plans. Fellow member Richard Hanley remarked, "What makes a man spend hundreds of hours building an engine like this? I think this drive is why we were able to put a man on the moon, why we all have a car to drive and a computer to use."

The exhibit appears in the Michigan Historical Museum's second-floor atrium through June 25, 2006.



The intricacy of this aircraft engine shows the detail of the Portland Machinists Guild models. Guild creations are on exhibit at the Michigan Historical Museum through June 25.

Register now for summer day camps at the Michigan Historical Museum

Now in its seventh season, Summer Sizzles day camp brings Michigan history to life for children aged 9 through 16. Campers get an enjoyable summer experience and a unique perspective on the past as they participate in crafts, discussions, activities and tours of the Michigan Historical Museum.

Programs are designed by members of the award-winning Michigan Historical Museum education staff. Class size is limited to ensure the best experience for all campers.

For more information on any of the Michigan Historical Museum's day camps, telephone (517) 373-1905 or send e-mail to arasimj@michigan.gov.

SAVE 10%

The Michigan Historical Museum's summer day camps are sponsored by the Michigan Historical Center Foundation and the Friends of Michigan History. Join the Friends of Michigan History for only \$40 and receive a number of valuable benefits, including a 10% discount on Michigan Historical Museum day camps!



For campers ages 9 through 12

Summer Sizzles

Fee: \$55/week

June 19 – 23 (9 A.M. to noon)

July 10 - 14 (1 to 4 P.M.)

July 24 - 28 (9 A.M. to noon)

August 7 - 11 (1 to 4 P.M.)

Each of the five half-day sessions during this weeklong day camp focuses on a different theme in Michigan's past:

- *etiquette
- *automobiles
- *magic
- *surveying
- *money and banking

Gene Sprouts

Fee: \$11/half-day session

June 23 (1 to 4 P.M.)

July 14 (9 A.M. to noon)

Offered in cooperation with the Library of Michigan, Gene Sprouts shows campers how to explore their family history through fun activities.

Everyday Life During the Civil War

Fee: \$22/one-day session

August 2 (9 A.M. to 4 P.M.)

This daylong session features a combination of reenactors, roll-players and hands-on demonstrations that look at the homefront and the military front.

For campers ages 13 through 16

Immigrants and Their Influence on the History of Michigan's Capitol

Fee: \$33/three-day session

July 18 - 20 (9 A.M. to noon)

Discover how immigrants from across Europe have built and shaped our State Capitol. Campers will examine original drawings of the Capitol, meet former legislators and learn hands-on the art of Victorian decorative painting.

Michigan's Civil War Battle Flags

Fee: \$22/two-day session

June 27 - 28 (9 A.M. to noon)

Campers will have a rare opportunity to view Michigan's Civil War battle flag collection, research the history of individual flags and hear the exciting histories of the men who fought under them.

2006 Swainson Award

The Michigan Historical Commission has named Dale E. Iman of Southfield the 2006 recipient of the Governor John B. Swainson Award. Iman received his award at a ceremony at the State Capitol on May 26, 2006.

Iman, a city administrator for Southfield, was nominated for his work in preserving and restoring that city's historic Code House, a built in the mid 19th century.

The Swainson Award was established in 1996 by the Michigan Historical Commission in honor of the commission's former president, Governor John B. Swainson, a man noted for his vast public service and deep commitment to Michigan history. The award is given annually to public employees whose non work-related efforts have made a significant impact on the preservation of Michigan history.

Join Us!

Become a partner with the Michigan Historical Center in protecting, preserving and interpreting Michigan's rich heritage.

Your membership benefits include:

- A one-year subscription to *Michigan History* magazine
- A 10% discount at the Michigan Historical Museum stores
- Discounts on museum classes and workshops
- Nationwide museum discounts through "Time Travelers"
- *The Insider* quarterly newsletter
- Qualified to join NuUnion Credit Union (formerly SECU)
- Special invitations to exhibit openings
- Membership card
- Tax benefits when you itemize your IRS tax return

For more information:

(517) 373-2565.

www.michigan.gov/friendsofmichiganhistory

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MIIM: New wing holds Secrets

A new era is beginning at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum in Negaunee as it opens for the 2006 season.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 7 opened the museum's new wing, made possible with more than \$800,000 raised in the MIIM's Forging Our Future campaign. Although more funds are needed to fill the wing with new permanent exhibits, the space provided by the building addition has allowed the MIIM to offer its first-ever special exhibit, *Secrets of a Buried Past: Clues from the Carp River Forge*.

Secrets tells the story of archaeological investigation of the Carp River forge site and displays for the first time forge artifacts that date back to the mid 19th century. The Carp River Forge site, known as the birthplace of Michigan's iron industry, is on the grounds of the MIIM. Between 1996 and 2002, archaeologists located the center of the industrial operation and discovered evidence of a domestic settlement where forge workers lived.

The Forging Our Future campaign continues toward its goal of raising \$1.8 million for the Michigan Iron Industry Museum. Additional projects funded by the campaign are focused on exhibits (including the restoration of the c. 1868 mine locomotive *Yankee*), a Discovery Center for classroom groups and families and a four-season interpretive trail system that will link with neighboring trails.

You can contribute to the Forging Our Future campaign by purchasing an Iron Industry heritage plaque. Find out more by visiting www.michiganhistory.org or www.michigan.gov/ironindustrymuseum.



A crowd gathers outside the Michigan Iron Industry Museum for a ribbon-cutting ceremony celebrating the museum's new wing.

Summer Activities at the Michigan Iron Industry Museum

June 18

Iron, Steel and the Automobile. The 17th annual antique auto exhibit displays a variety of vintage vehicles! Noon to 4 P.M.

July 8 and 9

Shield of Steel: The Arsenal of Democracy. This World War II encampment helps you discover the vital role played during the war by the Upper Peninsula's residents and iron ranges. Noon to 4:30 P.M.

July 11

3,000 Feet Underground: Michigan Iron, from Mine to Forge to Furnace. Part of our Tuesday afternoon lecture series! 2 P.M.

July 18

Swedish Immigration to the Upper Peninsula. Part of our Tuesday afternoon lecture series! 2 P.M.

July 25

In Search of Early Man: Prehistoric Archaeology in the U.P. Part of our Tuesday afternoon lecture series! 2 P.M.

July 29 and 30

Iron Ore and the Civil War. This Civil War encampment brings the historic era to life. Noon to 4:30 P.M.

August 6

Discovering the Peoples in Michigan. Discover the ethnic communities that shaped Michigan's history. 2:30 P.M.

August 8

Lake Effect: Weather Makes History. Part of our Tuesday afternoon lecture series! 2 P.M.

August 13

Upper Peninsula Archaeology: Everything You Wanted to Know but Were Afraid to Ask. Put those fears behind you and join us for a lively investigation. 1:30 to 3 P.M.

August 15

The Great U.P. Train Robbery of 1893. Part of our Tuesday afternoon lecture series! 2 P.M.

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Nominate a Michigan history teacher

Do you know an educator whose creativity and commitment helps students discover Michigan history?

The Michigan Historical Center Foundation is looking for elementary teachers who lead their students on exciting journeys into into Michigan's past. This is the beginning of Odyssey 2006.

Odyssey is an endeavor of the Michigan Historical Center Foundation to support history education and to honor exceptional Michigan history teachers. Nominations must be postmarked by August 1, 2006. Teachers chosen will receive their award and a \$500 check at a gala reception on November 18, 2006, at the Michigan Library and Historical Center in Lansing. More information and the nomination form are available by visiting www.michiganhistory.org or the Odyssey home page at www.michigan.gov/odyssey.

SHPO receives Preserve America grant

The Michigan Historical Center's State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) was awarded an \$80,000 Preserve America grant to develop a heritage tourism program for Michigan's western Lower Peninsula.

State Historic Preservation Officer Brian Conway says this project will focus on defining the potential of a 170-mile scenic/heritage route along the Lake Michigan shore. Spanning seven counties, the project targets 13 communities from New Buffalo north to Ludington.

"These are beautiful communities with concentrations of historic resources," Conway says, "but with little preservation activity."

The two-year project, to begin this summer, calls for a survey of historic resources related to exploration, settlement, maritime heritage, lumbering, art, architecture, agriculture, recreation, ethnic heritage and other themes. Once the survey is complete, the SHPO will assist each community in developing a preservation/heritage tourism strategy that sets goals and objectives for the protection of historic resources and their inclusion in a regional heritage tourism initiative. The project will also include workshops, technical assistance and the establishment of a regional heritage tourism infrastructure.

Michigan is among the first states in the nation to receive the new Preserve America grant, created to foster greater knowledge of the nation's past,



The Preserve America grant will help the SHPO study 13 communities along the Lake Michigan shore, including Holland, shown above.

strengthen regional identities and local pride, increase local participation in preserving the country's cultural and natural heritage assets, and support for communities' economic vitality. The project is a collaboration of the SHPO, local communities along the route, the Michigan Department of Transportation and Travel Michigan.

Matching grants for the Preserve America grant are provided by the SHPO in-kind staff time and by fund-raising efforts with the Michigan Historical Center Foundation and community and family foundations in the grant project area.

More information is available online at www.michiganhistory.org or www.michigan.gov/shpo.

Walk kicks off with stars

The Michigan Walk of Fame got off to a starry beginning at a kickoff celebration at the Michigan Historical Museum in downtown Lansing.

The Walk of Fame's inaugural group of 12 Michiganians honored for their contributions to state, national or world history includes Stevie Wonder, Jeff Daniels and Helen Thomas. The legendary recording artist, the actor/director and the esteemed journalist appeared at the May 25 tribute. Also inducted in the 2006 class were:

Herbert Henry Dow
Thomas Edison
Gerald R. Ford

Henry Ford
E. Genevieve Gillette
Ernie Harwell

W. K. Kellogg
Rosa Parks
Fannie Richards



Legendary recording artist Stevie Wonder was one of 12 Michigan Walk of Fame inductees honored at a gala ceremony May 25, 2006, at the Michigan Historical Museum in Lansing. The plaque honoring the Saginaw native sits on the piano he played while attending the Michigan School for the Blind. The piano is on permanent display in the museum's 1960s gallery. The plaque will be placed in a downtown Lansing sidewalk as part of the region's newest cultural attraction.

The first statewide walk of fame in the nation, the Michigan Walk of Fame will feature 18-by-30-inch bronze plaques imbedded in the sidewalks of downtown Lansing. Each plaque displays a star with an inductee's name and achievements.

The Michigan Walk of Fame is a partnership of the Michigan Historical Museum, the City of Lansing and the Lansing Principal Shopping District. Nominations for 2007 are being accepted now through November 1, 2006. Learn about some famous Michiganians by visiting www.michiganhistory.org. Click on "Find It Online" in the left column and go to "Michigan Facts and History." For more information, visit www.michiganwalkoffame.com.

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Walker Tavern on the road to change

Walker Tavern has received a federal grant that will usher in some exciting changes to this Michigan Historical Museum System site in Lenawee County.

The \$212,185 grant will be used to renovate the Hewitt House at Walker Tavern, located in Brooklyn along the U.S. 12 Historic Heritage Route. Renovation will preserve the historic building and create more display space for exhibits about the entire U.S. 12 heritage route. Adaptive improvements, including upgrades to the site's restrooms, will make the site accessible to people who have mobility impairments. Work on these projects begins fall 2006 with an anticipated completion in 2007.

Part of a \$20 million package of transportation enhancement funds administered by the Michigan Department of Transportation, the Walker Tavern grant was among those awarded to improve roadside parks for the benefit of motorists and tourists.



Summer Events at Walker Tavern

July 15 and 16

Civil War Reenactment Weekend. The sights and sounds of the Civil War come to the Irish Hills. Events begin at 10 A.M. each day.

August

Wednesdays at Walker. Fun hands-on activities for preschoolers and their parents.

September 2

Walker Frontier Fest: Quilts, Antique Tractors and Crafts. Explore southern Michigan's pioneer heritage. 10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

For more information, visit www.michiganhistory.org or www.michigan.gov/walkertavern.

Friends annual meeting: Monday, June 12, 2006
10 A.M. in the Board Room at the Michigan Library and Historical Center, Lansing